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INFORMAL NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS, IC STAFF

SUBJECT: The Term "HUMINT" - Dead and Buried

1. There is widespread dissatisfaction with the term "HUMINT." Principals and subordinates alike share dislike of this term that is unattractive to the ear, incomplete in meaning, and offensive to the non-intelligence information-gathering agencies of the government.

2. Suggestions for a different characterization of this portion of U.S. Government activity are solicited. Specifically an alternative which could replace the term HUMINT in such titles as National HUMINT Plan or HUMINT Branch of the IC Staff are earnestly requested. We are searching for a term which pertains to that intelligence/information collected by human sources whether these sources belong to intelligence agencies or other government agencies active in international affairs and information gathering.

3. Most people seem to prefer the term "Human Source Intelligence" to "HUMINT." To aid and stimulate your suggestions, some words that might be involved are:

"Human Source Information and Intelligence"

"Human-Reported Information (HRI)"

"People-Derived Information and Intelligence."

4. Perhaps the best solution is to drop use of the acronym HUMINT and use the whole term "Human Sources Information." Your suggestions would be appreciated.

[Redacted Signature Box]

Chief, HUMINT Branch

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